



Saturday morning will be the start of Heber Valley's newest attraction — ballooning. The balloons will take to the air at 8 a.m. from a site north of the Heber City Cemetery. It is anticipated that because of our scenery, Heber Valley will attract balloonists from the surrounding states.

# Balloon Park, Utah Opens In Heber Valley

*22 Mar 1989*

Three or four hot air balloons will take off from Balloon Park, Utah on the north side of the Heber City Cemetery Saturday morning at 8:00, weather permitting. They will be the first of thousands of balloons expected to soar across the Heber Valley in future years as Balloon Park, Utah becomes established as a permanent port for balloonists. To celebrate its beginning, local mayors have been invited along on the first flights.

The balloons are expected to follow U.S. 40 into Daniels. Or, of course, they could head toward Park City, instead, said Charlie Brown, the local representative of Balloon Park, Utah, Inc., the nonprofit organization being created to manage and promote balloon events in

Heber Valley.

Heber City had given the balloonists permission to use the cemetery property temporarily, but Brown said they are still looking for a permanent site.

Balloonists plan an event May 13 and 14, as part of the Heber City Centennial Celebration. Brown expects 15 to 20 balloons that weekend, including some from outside Utah, but said he didn't know if it would be at the cemetery or another site. "We're just playing it by ear," he said.

He also said 20 to 30 balloons can be expected to participate at each of four state balloon championships that will be held at Balloon Port, Utah wherever it may be. The sites will be announced later.



Joel and Jeannine Pratt

Dear Editor: Watch out world! Watch out Utah! Heber Valley is moving up. Here we come! To borrow a phrase, "Master the Possibilities."

Many of us know the possibilities. Do you? We have many people in government that can see the possibilities. Mayor Mendenhall, without him, it would take much longer. Others such as Mayor Probst, Martie from the State Parks, The Chamber with Francis Smith, Dick Buys, Max Mawhinney, Mel Snow from the Marina, and countless others I still have yet to meet.

Back to the possibilities. Look at what we have. We are one of the most beautiful valleys you can find. Other than that, what do we have? A top area for sailplanes. Truly one of the most beautiful sports you can participate in. Freedom of flight. Like the Eagle floating on the air currents that a loving creator has provided.

Hot air ballooning, like sailplanes, is being held in the hands of creation and flying free.

What else? We have Jerry Saunders with the sleigh rides, cross country ski trails, balloon rides great food and one of the finest resorts known. And who can forge The Heber Creeper?

So much more. We have business owners who believe in the Heber Valley. They are not closing. They are building. We have many residents that say what can I do to help. They can and will help.

What can you do? Can you "Master the Possibilities?" Can you believe? If you are involved in these low impact recreation activities or are you interested, shake your politicians hand for his or her support. Get together with us to let the world know Heber Valley USA is here.

We are viable vibrant and becoming very visible. With you we will "Master the Possibilities." With your help, Heber Valley USA will be the heart of Utah recreation in so many fields.

There are so many I have missed here so much I still have to learn of the Valley. Join us, teach us. We will come up together.

Charlie Brown  
Balloon Park, Utah

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with the fire trucks and the furnace blows up and it has nothing to do, whatsoever, with the fire district, and it blows out one wall of that building. We're stuck with that. That part I can't buy.

"I don't mind maintaining it and keeping it in as good shape as it was, but I don't think we should be responsible for everything that happens in it."

The County is prepared to house the engines in the County sheds, free of charge, until a new building is ready, probably next fall. However, firemen have said the response time would be longer from the sheds.

Besendorfer said he had asked Clyde Montgomery, secretary of the

fire department, to provide some statistics. "I'm curious to know how many fires are in Heber City where the response time would change all that much."

He suggested that the fire department rent only the part of the building it needs and that the City rent the rest to someone else.

Coleman said, "I couldn't see paying out approximately \$500 a month, for probably eight months, which would be around \$4,000, out of the fire district budget, when we have facilities."

"We could take \$4,000 and build a whole council room for them (the firemen) to meet in, in that new building," Besendorfer added.

## sed Capital Improvements

### Sheriff's Vehicles

The Commission authorized Sheriff Edd Thacker to get four bids for vehicles for his department and prepare proposals for both four-wheel drives and small cars.

He reported that according to local car dealers it would cost about \$80,000 to buy five four-wheel vehicles and one small car.

### New Backhoe

The Commission approved purchase of a new Ford backhoe for approximately \$30,716, including interest for two years and allowing a \$11,750 trade-in on the old backhoe. It will be paid for out of Class B road funds distributed by the state from gas tax revenue.

Berg explained that the present